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Chief, Sovmat Staff, 00

17 December 59

THRU: : Chief, Intelligence Information Staff, ORR

THRU : Chief, Industrial Division, ORR
Chief, Producers Equipment Branch, ORR

Request for Purchase of Internal Grinding Spindle.

1. The intelligence community is divided on the question of whether or not grinding heads and spindle assemblies designed to operate at speeds in excess of 80,000 r.p.m. are being manufactured in the Soviet Bloc. The determination of this question is a significant factor in the U.S. Government position regarding the export control of these items. A related question, if these items are produced in the Soviet Bloc, is the level of technology embodied in their design and manufacture.
2. In a list of new export goods appearing in the magazine Hungarian Foreign Trade, October 1957, a "Fortuna Internal Grinding Spindle" was described as a new product operating at spindle speeds of 60,000 to 120,000 r.p.m., i.e., "with limit speeds hitherto scarcely attained by similar machines".
3. It is rumored that these machines are being sold in England, presumably by a firm or firms which represents the Hungarian trading organization Technoimpex. Presumably the Fortuna Internal Grinding Spindle could be obtained direct from Technoimpex, Budapest V, Dorottya-u.6. Budapest 62. P. O. B. 183 (Cable Address: TECHNOIMPEX).

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